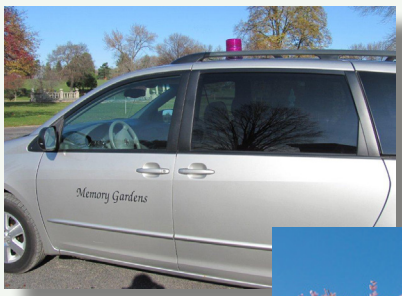
The Gardens
Memory Gardens

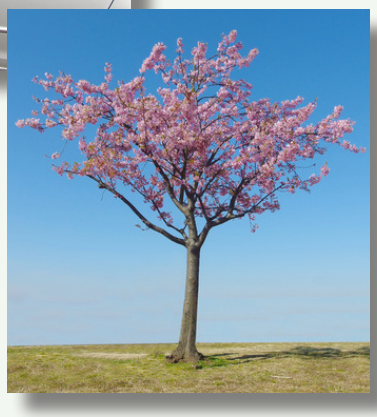
Friends of the Gardens works to preserve and enhance the cemetery

The Friends of the Gardens was created several years ago as a way for lot owners and families to become more involved in preserving and enhancing the natural beauty of the cemetery.



Recently, the Friends of the Gardens donated $3,000 towards the purchase of a replacement lead car. This vehicle is used every day to lead funeral services out to their appropriate gardens. A vehicle was much needed, as the previous vehicle had reached the end of its useful service life.

In addition, Friends of the Gardens donated $1,080 for the purchase of six new flowering trees that were planted throughout Memory Gardens last fall. This included three Cherry Kwanzan trees and three Cherry Umbrella trees. Both are flowering spring trees. They will provide additional beauty in the gardens as they mature.



"We invite you to join with us in perpetuating the beauty of the Gardens so that future generations may enjoy their beauty and serenity for many years to come," said Cathi Romano, Friends of the Gardens chair. "With your support, we will continue the tradition of caring for the Gardens."

Donations of any amount can be made at any time. You may send your gift to Memory Gardens, 983 Watervliet Shaker Road, Albany, NY 12205.

Volunteers needed to place Memorial Day flags, help with gardening

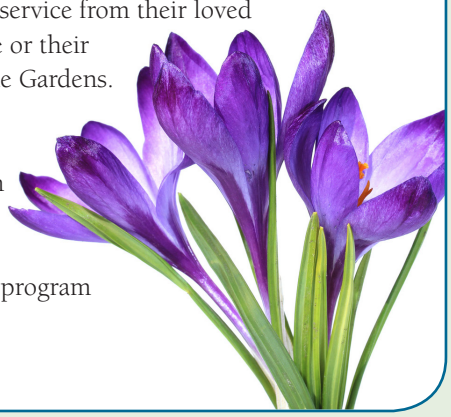
Volunteers are needed before Memorial Day to place flags on the graves of military veterans interred in Memory Gardens. Help us honor those who have served our country before this solemn weekend.

Volunteers are also needed for various gardening projects throughout the Gardens. We invite you to spend a sunny afternoon weeding the flower beds or edging memorials. We could benefit from your expertise in updating some of our older flower beds. Bring a friend.

If you would like more information or would like to sign up, please call our office at (518) 869-9506 or send an email to info@memorygardens.org

Easter Sunrise Service set for April 21

Memory Gardens' 78th annual Easter Sunrise Service will be at 7 a.m. on April 21, 2019, rain or shine. The Rev. Bruce Cornwell of the Community Reformed Church of Colonie will conduct the service. The service will be broadcast throughout the grounds via the Schulmerich Carillon. We invite family and friends to participate in the service from their loved one's resting place or their favorite spot in the Gardens. We recommend arriving at least several minutes in advance to give you adequate time to pick up a program and get situated.



President's Message

For Memory Gardens lot owners there is much that requires your attention in this issue.

The most important of all is the proxy found below this message, which provides you with the opportunity to elect board members and vote on proposed changes to the bylaws. I encourage you to participate in the election process by completing and returning the form.

The following individuals are seeking three-year terms:

- Donna L. Landy was appointed to the board in February 2011, and currently serves as the board's vice-president. She also serves on the Ad Hoc and Friends of the Garden committees. Landy has been with M&T Bank for 17 years where she works as the technology manager for the Mortgage Division. She lives with her husband Dave and their daughter, Grace, in Latham.

- Frank J. Coluccio is a retired Albany Fire Department lieutenant. He currently serves as the board's treasurer. He is also a retired New York State certified emergency medical technician and buildings and code inspector. Coluccio is a licensed master electrician. He previously served as a construction rehab specialist for the Albany Community Development Agency.

Additionally, you will be asked to cast your vote to approve several changes to the Memory Gardens bylaws including the one that would eliminate the prohibition of current and former board members being allowed to apply for paid positions at the cemetery. It is important to note that should the bylaws be changed there is still a prohibition against being a board member and an employee simultaneously. Also, this change would only allow for a person to apply; there would be no guarantee of employment.

This issue surfaced as your board was considering its path forward in hiring our next executive director, and the question was raised about the ability of current or former members of the board being allowed to apply for the position. Executive Director Andy Carroll has announced his intention to retire at the end of January 2020. A search committee has been formed and our expectation is to

continued on page 4

Memory Gardens Annual Meeting of Lot Owners

10 a.m. Saturday, May 4, 2019

Memory Gardens Administrative Building 983 Watervliet Shaker Road, Albany, NY 12205

NOTE: Voting and attendance are limited to Lot Owners (those listed on the deed or direct heir). Lot Owners may vote either in person **OR** by completing and returning the proxy form below. Please sign full name, including middle initial. **Joint owners should each sign.** When signing as attorney, executor, administrator or guardian, please give full title as such.

****ILLEGIBLE OR UNSIGNED PROXIES WILL NOT BE COUNTED ****

Completed proxy must be postmarked no later than April 25, 2019 to be counted.

PROXY SOLICITED ON BEHALF OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF MEMORY GARDENS, INC. FOR THE 2019 ANNUAL MEETING OF MEMBERS. The undersigned hereby appoints the current President and Secretary of the Board of Directors, with full power of substitution, to represent the undersigned and as proxies to vote, with all the powers which the undersigned would possess if personally present at the annual meeting of members to be held at the administrative building at 983 Watervliet Shaker Road, Albany, NY 12205 on May 4, 2019 at 10 a.m., or at any adjournment or postponement thereof. This proxy will be voted as specified by the undersigned. Further, the undersigned grants full power to the current President and Secretary of the Board of Directors to act as the undersigned's proxy on any proposals arising other than Proposal 1 & 2.

The Board of Directors recommends a vote IN FAVOR OF Proposal 1 & 2. If no choice is specified, this proxy will be voted IN FAVOR OF Proposal 1 & 2.

Proposal 1: Election of Directors

1)	**Frank Coluccio**	**Three-Year Term**	**IN FAVOR OF**	**/**	**NOT IN FAVOR OF**
2)	**Donna L. Landy**	**Three-Year Term**	**IN FAVOR OF**	**/**	**NOT IN FAVOR OF**

Proposal 2: The members will be asked to approve the Bylaws of Memory Gardens, Inc. at the annual meeting of the members to be held on May 4, 2019, at 10:00am at 983 Watervliet Shaker Road, Albany, NY 12205. The Bylaws include changes previously approved by the Board of Directors as well as the following additional changes: removing certain restrictions regarding who may serve as Executive Director; and clarifying who has authority to amend the Bylaws. A copy of the Bylaws that will be presented for approval is available at memorygardens.org.

IN FAVOR OF / NOT IN FAVOR OF

Name(s) On Deed: _____ Garden: _____ Lot #: _____

Name: (print): _____ Name: (print): _____

Signature: _____ Signature: _____

Address: _____ ❑ check if new address

_____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Memory Gardens
2019 Floral Placement Service

Placement service begins April 26 and ends October 11

Each year from the end of April through mid-October, Memory Gardens offers a floral placement service. For a small donation, our staff will place a lovely bouquet in remembrance of your loved one. Fresh and artificial bouquets are available, and we offer a variety of plans.

Fresh bouquets include mixed flowers of bright colors. Take advantage of our weekly plans to ensure your loved one will have a beautiful bouquet of fresh flowers from the end of April through mid-October. Fresh flowers will be placed on Friday of each week.

Artificial bouquets in seasonal colors are pictured below. We offer a spring bouquet, a *Red, White & Blue* patriotic bouquet for placement from Memorial Day through July 4th, an early-summer bouquet, a mid-summer bouquet, a late summer bouquet, and a fall bouquet.

MEMORY GARDENS FLORAL PLACEMENT SERVICE ORDER FORM

Please complete the order form below and return it to Memory Gardens, 983 Watervliet Shaker Road, Albany, NY 12205 with payment, or call our office at (518) 869-9506, or select the "Floral Placement Service" link on our website, www.memorygardens.org.

Name of Deceased: _____

Garden: _____ Lot: _____Space: _____

Total Amount Enclosed: _____Check Number: _____

Card Type: ❑ MasterCard ❑ Visa ❑ Discover ❑ AMEX Expiration Date: _____ Security Code_____

Card Number: _____Phone: _____

Name (Print): _____ Sign:_____

Address: _____

_____

Email: _____Date:_____

Fresh flowers provided by Frank Gallo & Son Florist, Schenectady

❑ Check if new address

Please select which plan you desire below:

❑ **Plan 1** **25 Fresh Bouquets -** Once per week **$350**
Fresh flowers each week from the end of April through mid-October

❑ **Plan 2** **15 Fresh Bouquets -** Every other week **$215**
Includes Mother's Day, Memorial Day, Father's Day, July 4th and Labor Day

❑ **Plan 3** **10 Fresh Bouquets -** Every three weeks **$140**
Includes Memorial Day, July 4th and Labor Day

❑ **Plan 4** **5 Fresh Bouquets** **$100**
Includes Mother's Day, Memorial Day, Father's Day, July 4th and Labor Day

❑ **Plan 5** **Artificial Bouquets -** Spring _____, *Red, White & Blue _____ ..... **$25 each**
Early-Summer____, Mid-Summer _____, Late Summer _____, Fall _____

❑ **Plan 6** **All Six Artificial Bouquets** **$125**

Spring

Red, White & Blue

Early-Summer

Mid-Summer

Late Summer

Fall

*Our staff does not place on weekends or holidays

Memory Gardens, Inc.
983 Watervliet Shaker Road
Albany, NY 12205
(518) 869-9506
www.memorygardens.org

NON-PROFT ORG.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
ALBANY, NY
PERMIT #203

Office Hours

Monday – Friday 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Grounds Open

Dawn to Dusk

Floral Order Form Enclosed

Visit our website! www.memorygardens.org

Please Like us on Facebook!

@memorygardensny

President's Message

continued on page 4

hire someone in the third quarter of 2019, providing an opportunity for the new executive director to learn the entire operation under guidance from Carroll.

We have been fortunate to have Andy Carroll serve the Gardens. He will leave the Gardens much stronger, both operationally and financially, than when he started. I will have much more about this in the fall newsletter.

Until then, I hope to see many of you at the Easter Sunrise Service and the Annual Lot Owner's meeting on May 4.

Salvatore Prividera Jr.
President

Board of Directors

Salvatore Prividera Jr., President

Gordon Bell	Cheryl Kowalski
Frank Coluccio	Donna Landy
Anthony T. Garufi	Andy Marino
Sharon M. Greenfield	Raymond Paradise
Valerie Konopka	Catherine Romano

Guide to important dates at Memory Gardens

March 1 to April 15
Spring cleanup: All decorations are removed

April 15 to November 1
Bronze vases may be used until November 1

May 4
Annual Lot Owners Meeting at Cemetery Office, 10 a.m.

November 1 to November 15
Fall cleanup: All decorations are removed

November 1 to April 14
Bronze vases in markers not to be used

December 13
Christmas Celebration and Remembrance at the Chapel, 6 p.m.

Easter, Mother's Day, Memorial Day, Father's Day
Potted plants allowed three days before and three days after

Memorial Day, Flag Day, Independence Day, Veterans Day
Flags allowed three days before and three days after
Volunteers are needed to place flags for Memorial Day

For more details visit our website
www.memorygardens.org